



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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Industrious Woman Advocate Wins 2008 National SBA Women in Business Champion Award

Milwaukee: Julann Jatzak, Vice President of Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC) is SBA's 2008 National Women in Business Champion award winner. WWBIC is a nonprofit economic development corporation providing quality business education, one-on-one assistance, financial literacy programs, and capital to Wisconsin entrepreneurs and small business owners. Julann heads the business education and client development programs at [WWBIC](#) and provides numerous business exploration and development workshops in Wisconsin as well as guidance and consultation to emerging business centers across the country and internationally. Her leadership has allowed WWBIC to open offices in Madison, Kenosha and flourish throughout Milwaukee.

Julann is well known for developing and facilitating business workshops for Micro-businesses, especially targeting women and low-income individuals. Partnerships are the cornerstone of Julann's approach to creating opportunities for businesses. She was the founding partner of the Racine/Kenosha Small Business Development Partnership Council, the Wisconsin Entrepreneurs Network, the Southwest Business Partnership, and Comienzos (a bi-lingual business counseling collaboration). Through these efforts, and numerous others, the opportunities for women entrepreneurs have grown significantly beyond what WWBIC could have accomplished alone. Julann has personally delivered more than 550 workshops and speeches for more than 14,500 people.

Julann is co-author of a nationally-distributed business planning curriculum, *Business Plan Basics: NxLevel Guide for Microentrepreneurs*, which was written to address the needs of women-owned and neighborhood-based ventures. She is also one of select group of NxLevel Master Trainers certified to "train the trainers" nationally.

While Julann's role at WWBIC has afforded her many opportunities to reach women business owners, she devotes a lot of her time outside of the work day to other programs she cares about. She is a volunteer mentor for second-stage women businesses through the LEAP (Launching Entrepreneurial Advisory Panels) program through the Women in Business Council. Julann speaks nationally on the issues facing women business owners as well as on Wisconsin creative approaches to entrepreneurship support. Recognizing that female entrepreneurship is a global movement, Julann has also shared her expertise and knowledge via WWBIC engagements with business and women entrepreneur associations internationally ~ Egypt, Nigeria, Russia.

Julann certainly fits the title of Women Business Champion as she clearly shows that she is a true advocate for women in business by the numerous and unselfish ways she assists women business owners. SBA is proud to have chosen her as this year's National winner.

Julann was presented with her Champion Award on April 23, 2008 in Washington, D.C., as part of the annual observance of *National Small Business Week*. She will be honored in [Wisconsin at SBA/SCORE's Awards Presentation Breakfast](#) at Country Springs Inn and Resort in Waukesha. For more information, please contact Mary Trimmier at (414) 297-1093 or email her at mary.trimmier@sba.gov.